

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraphs 4-6, 9, 11-12, and 16-17 with the following amended paragraphs:

[0004] None of the grips of the prior art, however adequately train the user to maintain what is called a “knocked~~ing~~-knuckles” grip throughout a proper baseball swing. During the proper swing of a baseball bat, the user’s knuckles are to be maintained in alignment. The concept seems easy enough to execute. Almost all players, even youth, are able to visually line up the knuckles, and raise the bat in anticipation of a pitched ball. The problem arises once the pitch is delivered, and the batter begins the mechanics of executing a swing. Under these circumstances, the user typically becomes excited, and tightens his or her grip on the bat in order to hit the ball harder. This instinctual response of “trying to kill it,” however will result in an improper swing. One reason for this is that when the grip is made more tightly, the knuckles will shift out of their original, aligned position. The tight grip and skewed knuckles will result in an erratic swing that is not level, as is desired.

[0005] There is a need in the art for a training device that will force the user to maintain a knocked~~ing~~-knuckles alignment, and at the same time grip the bat more lightly throughout the swing.

[0006] The baseball bat of the present invention solves these prior art problems by creating a bat that forces the user to maintain a knocked~~ing~~-knuckles alignment during the swing and consequently grip the bat more lightly. This is done by creating a pair of protrusions on the side of the grip opposite the knuckles during a normal swing, these protrusions being especially configured so that they

conform to the V-shaped opening formed between the user's thumb and pointer finger part of the hand existing when an appropriate ~~knocked~~ing-knuckles grip is made on the bat.

[0009] FIG. 1 is a prospective view of the present invention in use by a batter using the proper ~~knocked~~ing-knuckles grip.

[0011] FIG. 3 is a top view showing the outline of the upper and lower protrusions.

[0012] ~~FIG. 4 is a detailed view showing the outline of the lower protrusion.~~

[0016] FIGs. 3 ~~and 4~~ shows the details of first upper 20 and lower 22 protrusions.

With respect to upper protrusion, it may be seen that it has a rough-diamond shape with four borders. Upper right border 26 slopes more dramatically downward than outward. Lower right border 28 slopes more dramatically from up to down than from right to left. Bottom left border 30 also slopes more dramatically from up to down than from left to right. Upper left border 32 completes the diamond shape by sloping dramatically from down to up but less so from left to right.

[0017] Referring again ~~now~~ to FIG. 3 ~~FIG. 4~~, it may be seen that lower protrusion 22 has a somewhat similar appearance to that of upper protrusion 20. Protrusion 22 has an upper right border 32, lower right border 34, lower left border 36 and upper left border 38. Like upper protrusion 20, protrusion 28 also defines a rough-diamond shape.